

STATE FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD

March 7, 2015

MINUTES

Roll Call.

Present: Anderson, Yolanda; Baca, Marty; Brannan, Bruce; Bigos, Carol; Burnell, Susan; Condon, Mimi; Daidone, Richard; Foti, Jo; Gasaway, Julie; Giaquinto, Laura; Hanson, Paul; Harrell, Nancy; Koch, Connie; Kolzow, Jakki; Lundy, Thelma; Manring, Gene; Miller, Marilyn; Smith, Linda; Sterling, JT; VanAuker, Valerie; Wiesenthal, Steven.

Absent: Battaglini, Karen; Campbell, Chad; Crawford, Barbara; Endres, Art; Goldberg, Carolyn; Ishmael, Susan; Kimball, Peggy; Matthews, Tiffany; Romanski, David.

Staff Present: Devlin, Karla; Foster, Natalie; Gray, Charlie; Guizzetti, Sandy; Lutt-Owens, Caroline; Lazere, Steve.

Guests Present: Devine, Mike; Dobrick, Ken; Mach, Amir.

I. CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES/INTRODUCTIONS:

Connie Koch called meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Motion: Approve to accept minutes from September 6, 2014. **Action:** Approve; **Moved by:** Smith, Linda; **Seconded by:** Van Auker, Valerie.
Motion passed unanimously.

Introduction of new board members, guests, and existing board members.

II. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

First Ballot-District I, District II, any District but I and II

Caroline provided an overview of the election process. Ballots and bios were distributed and the committee was asked to submit their votes.

Ballots were collected for final count.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Executive Committee:

Update provided by Connie Koch-

The state board agenda times have been changed in this morning's meeting.

- Training 9:45am-10:45am
- State board meeting 10:45am-12:45pm
- Committee meetings 12:50pm-2:20pm

A revised agenda will be sent out to all board members.

The executive committee approved having the state board committees elect their chair, vice chair, and secretary (rather than the State Board Chair making the appointment).

Based on budgetary approval, another state board meeting (in person) will added to the schedule starting June, 2016.

Steve Lazere provided additional details and history of the state board restructure. A state board restructure document was distributed and Steve reviewed that document with the state board committee. One point not addressed in the handout is regarding At-large member's roles. At-large members will not be responsible for being the liaison for three local boards. However, they will still be responsible for participating in a committee.

Committee chairs will be attending the strategic planning meeting and all executive meetings as a non-voting members.

B. Best Practices Committee: N/A

C. Outreach Committee: N/A

D. Continuing Education Committee: N/A

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS:

Ballot results

The following people have been elected to the Executive Committee:

Bruce Brannan
Connie Koch
Susan Burnell
JT Sterling
Julie Gasaway
Gene Manring
Marty Baca

Chair and Vice Chair Nominations

Chair

Floor nominated:

Connie Koch

Bruce Brannan

Bruce declined nomination as Chair. With no other nominations, Connie Koch was elected Executive Committee Chair.

Vice Chair

Floor nominated:

Bruce Brannan

JT Sterling

Both nominees accepted their nomination and a vote was conducted.

(Agenda item out of order) The scheduled speaker arrived early, so the state board paused their meeting and allowed him, Pete Hershberger from FosterEd, to present to the group.

Vice chair voting results:

Bruce was elected vice chair of the executive committee by the state board.

Additional comments regarding standing committees, by Connie Koch (Chair):

- At the start of the committee meetings, do introductions (providing a brief bio) before starting committee business.
- Today, staff members will take notes. All meetings going forward, the secretary will take notes. The draft of final notes will be sent to the staff member for distribution.
- Committee meeting notes should be completed within 30 days of the completion of the meeting.
- Chair and vice-chair will attend the strategic planning meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

N/A

VII. PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT:

Steve Lazere delivered the following report:

Case manager tracking update-We have tracked case manager attendance from November through present. Case managers have attended reviews approximately 65% of the time over the months tracked. Caroline and Steve will be meeting with the new DCS leadership in the near future.

Staffing-Linda Bednarek (Tucson supervisor) retired in February. Karen Gilreath (Phoenix supervisor) left the program. New supervisors: Esma Murrieta in Tucson and Belinda Olbert in Phoenix. New FCRB staff: Gioia Kaid, PSIII; Amy Medley, PSI; Marissa Espinoza, Admin. Secretary (Phx). Vacancies: PSIII (1 in Phoenix and 1 in Tucson) and Administrative Secretary (Part-time).

Program numbers-Last month we served approximately 14,450, which is a 13% increase since this time last year. From two years ago, it's about a 20% increase in numbers. Thank you to all board members for their efforts and hard work. New boards opened-4 in Maricopa (58-61); 3 in Pima (27-29). Pinal 08 scheduled to be opened soon. We are experiencing a large increase in numbers in Pinal County. We are now at 140 boards statewide.

IT-We are in preliminary conversations with IT regarding a secure upload system.

Training credit form-The current training credit form currently only exists in paper form. We are close to being able to automate the form.

VIII. DIVISION DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Caroline Lauth-Owens delivered the following report:

Changes to DCS leadership and AG's office-We are currently in the process of making new partnerships with the new leaders in each agency. Several meetings are scheduled to take place this month.

Cross-Over Youth-We were able to extend the current contract with Georgetown University through the end of September, 2105. Maricopa County is in their first year of implementation. There are three additional counties that joined; Coconino, Mohave, and Yavapai. October 1 is the beginning of a new federal fiscal year and we hope to be able to have the funds to move forward with new counties. Pima, Pinal, Yuma, Santa Cruz, Cochise have showed an interest in the program.

Volunteer conference-Our budget situation does not look very good at this point and we will not know whether we can have a conference until after the legislative session has ended.

Parent representation attorney standards-Caroline provided a history on the Child Representation Standards and then shared that parent representation standards were developed, went to COJC, and went out for informal comment. The standards were modified and went back to the COJC for final approval. They are being presented to AJC at the end of the month. The recommendation is that the Chief Justice will consider them to be implemented through Administrative Order with a subsequent rule petition filed to implement them through court rule. If that happens, they will then go out for formal comment. The good news is that the COJC adopted them and

now Court Improvement can train attorneys on these standards and judges can use them to hold, those attorneys who are not adequately representing their clients, accountable.

IX. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no public respondents.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting ended at 12:40pm

Motion: To adjourn; **Action:** Approve; **Moved by:** Smith, Linda; **Seconded by:** Manring, Gene.

The next State Board meeting is Saturday, September 12, 2015 (in person).